

# CHINA

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

VOL. XXXIV. No. 4610. 第二十九年八十七百八十一英

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1878.

日十初月三年寅戌

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

## AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—E. ALGAR, 6, Clerkenwell Lane, Lombard Street, George Street, 30, Cornhill, GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E. C. BATES, HENRY & CO., 4, Old Jewry, E. C. SAMUEL DRAGON & CO., 150 & 152, Leadenhall Street, PARIS AND EUROPE.—LEON DE ROUST, 19, Rue Monsieur, Paris.  
NEW YORK.—ANDREW WOOD, 183, Nassau Street.  
AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.  
SAN FRANCISCO, and American Posts generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.  
SINGAPORE AND STRAITS.—SAYLOR & CO., Square, Singapore. C. HEINSEN & CO., Manila.  
CHINA.—Macao, MESSRS A. A. DE MELLO & CO., Seaview, CAMBELL & CO., Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLS & CO., Foochow, HEDGE & CO., Shanghai. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CANNON & CO., Co.

## Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL,.....5,000,000 Dollars.  
RESERVE FUND,.....1,000,000 Dollars.

## COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—E. D. SASSOON, Esq.  
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## CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong,.....THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.  
MANAGER,  
Shanghai,.....EWEN CAMERON, Esq.  
LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

## HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.  
On Current Deposit Account, at the rate  
of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily  
balance.

For Fixed Deposits:  
For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum.  
" 6 " " 4 per cent. " "  
" 12 " " 6 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.  
Credits granted on approved Securities,  
and every description of Banking and  
Exchange business transacted.

Draft, granted on London, and the  
chief Commercial places in Europe, India,  
Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager.  
Offices of the Corporation,  
No. 1, Queen's Road East,  
Hongkong, February 27, 1878.

## For Sale.

THE ORIENTAL SUGAR REFINERY.

SUPERIOR WHITE CRYSTALS  
Manufactured by the ORIENTAL  
SUGAR REFINERY, can now be had in  
Tins of 10 or 14 lbs., or in larger quantities  
to suit purchasers, on application to  
MESSRS LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

H. KIER,  
General Agent.  
Hongkong, March 30, 1878.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

THIS REFINERY MANUFACTURES.

LOAF SUGAR, (in 5, 10, and 15 lbs.  
Loaves).  
Cut and Powdered LOAF SUGAR.

CUBE SUGAR (Lyell's Patent), shortly  
CRYSTALLIZED SUGAR, mark C. S. R.  
(in diamond) 4 III".

Fine WHITE SUGAR, mark C. S. R.  
(in diamond) 4 III".

Medium WHITE SUGAR, mark C. S. R.  
(in diamond) 4 II".

Fine YELLOW SUGAR, mark C. S. R.  
(in diamond) 4 II".

COFFEE SUGAR, mark C. S. R.  
(in diamond) 4 II".

GOLDEN SYRUP, SYRUP, and  
MOLASSES.

SPRITS OF WINE and LAMP SPIRIT,  
RUM, 45°, 30°, C. P., and Naval.

ANIMAL CHARCOAL and DUST.

AMMONIACAL LIQUOR, from Bone.

BONE TAR (a preventive of white ants).

ROUGH BOLE TALLOW.

Packed in Quantities and Packages to suit  
Customers.

Particulars and Prices on application to  
THE MANAGER,

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LIMITED,

East Point, Hongkong.

March 8, 1878.

## NOW READY.

A CHINESE DICTIONARY IN THE  
CANTONESE DIALECT, Parts I.  
and II., A to M, with Introduction. Royal  
8vo, pp. 404.—By ERNEST JOHN ELLIS,  
Ph.D., Fribourg.

Price: FIVE Dollars, or Two Dollars  
and a Half per Part.

To be had from MESSRS LANE, CRAWFORD  
& CO., Hongkong and Shanghai, and MESSRS  
KELLY & WALSH, Shanghai.

Hongkong, March 1, 1878.

## For Sale.

LAMMERT, ATKINSON & CO.

## HAVE FOR SALE.

EX M. M. S. S. "IVA,"

AND OTHER RECENT ARRIVALS.

TEYSONNEAU'S STRAWBERRIES

in SYRUP.

TEYSONNEAU'S ASSORTED FRUITS

in NOYEAU.

TEYSONNEAU'S ASSORTED FRUITS

in BRANDY.

TEYSONNEAU'S ASSORTED PATES

in Patent Tins.

TEYSONNEAU'S PATE DE FOIE GRAS

in Patent Tins.

TEYSONNEAU'S ASSORTED JAMS and

JELLES, in Glass Bottles.

PHILIPPE and CANAUD'S ASSORTED

PATES.

PHILIPPE and CANAUD'S LONG ASPA-

RAGUS.

PHILIPPE and CANAUD'S SARDINES.

FENARD & FILS'

FINEST

CHERBOURG BUTTER, in Bottles.

CIGARETTES, COMPAGNIE LAFERME.

RICHMOND SMOKING MIXTURE.

BARCELONA NUTS.

BRAZIL NUTS.

PEA NUTS.

ALMONDS in SHELL.

MUSCATEL BLOOM RAISINS, in

Cartons.

EPP'S COCOA.

BORDEN'S CONDENSED MILK.

GOLDEN GATE FLOUR, in Barrels.

GALETINE and ISINGLAS, in ½ lb.

Packets.

WAFFLE IRONS, AMERICAN BROILERS.

VERY FINE

"O. K." BOURBON WHISKY.

BILLIARD CUE TIPS.

BILLIARD CUE CEMENT.

BILLIARD CHALK.

BILLIARD TABLE CLOTHS.

BARCLAY and PERKINS' PORTER, in

Hogsheads.

HOTEL'S Best Quality RUSSIAN ROPE.

HOTEL'S ASSORTED TARRED and

WHITE LINES.

FAIRBANKS' SCALES.

&c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, February 22, 1878.

## TO HOUSE BUILDERS.

MAEWEEN, FRICKEL & CO., offer  
FOR SALE at COST PRICES, to  
Effect a Clearance.

BRASS FLUSH BOLTS

STRONG BEST

{ 36 in. by 1½ in.

ENGLISH MAKE

" 30 " " 1½ "

" 24 " " ¾ "

" 18 " " ¾ "

" 18 " " 1½ "

" 12 " " 1½ "

" 12 " " ¾ "

" 9 " " ¾ "

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## Notices of Firms.

## NOTICE.

MR. THEODOR JOHANNES EN. GELBRECHT VON PUSTAU has been authorized to sign our Firm per procuration.

W.M. PUSTAU & Co.  
Hongkong, March 22, 1878. ap13

## NOTICE.

MR. HORATIO GAY JAMES was admitted a Partner in our Firm on the 1st January, 1878.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.  
Hongkong, January 5, 1878. my1

## NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day established myself at this Port as a MERCHANT and COMMISION-AGENT, under the Style or Firm of GEO. R. STEVENS & Co., who will henceforward conduct the Agency of the AUSTRALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

G. R. STEVENS.  
Hongkong, December 29, 1877. my1

## NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr EDWARD CUNNINGHAM in our Firm in Hongkong and China, CEASED on the 31st December last.

RUSSELL & Co.  
China, March 8, 1878. ap13

## NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of the Undersigned in the Chinese Mail, 雷士打屋 (Wai Tsz Yat Po), CEASED from the 1st August, 1877, but Debts prior to that Date will be received and paid by him.

OHUN AYIN.  
Hongkong, April 6, 1878.

## NOTICE.

In Reference to the above, the Undersigned has LEASED the Chinese Mail from the 1st August, 1877, and engaged the services of Mr. LUNG YOOK CHUN, as Translator and General Manager of the newspaper, which under its new regime will be found to be, as hitherto, an excellent medium for advertising, especially as the Manager is able to devote his whole attention to the conduct of the Newspaper.

KONG CHIM,  
Leasee of the Hongkong Chinese Mail.  
Hongkong, April 6, 1878.

## NOTICE.

MR. CHARLES WO BOSE has been authorized to sign our Firm per procuration at Canton.

CARLOWITZ & Co.  
Canton, April 2, 1878. my1

## To Let.

TO LET.  
A THREE STORED DWELLING-HOUSE, No. 115, Queen's Road East, (Spring Gardens). Kent Moderate. Apply to D. NOWROOZEE,

HONGKONG HOTEL.  
Hongkong, April 4, 1878. ap14

## TO LET.

THE DWELLING HOUSE, "Greenmount," at present in the occupation of J. FAIRBAIRN, Esq.  
Possession after 15th April.  
Apply to GILMAN & Co.  
Hongkong, March 18, 1878. ap18

## TO LET.

THE Dwelling House No. 6, Mosque Terrace, possession from 15th April next.  
Three Offices, in Club Chambers.  
Apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.  
Hongkong, March 4, 1878.

## TO LET.

HOUSE No. 9, Queen's Road Central, with Godowns attached.  
House No. 2, Seymour Terrace.

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.  
Hongkong, January 4, 1878.

## Intimations.

## ESTATE OF DODD &amp; Co.

AT the MEETING held on the 12th instant at Messrs DODD & Co.'s Offices, the following RESOLUTIONS were carried:

1. That the affairs of the said Dodd & Co. shall be liquidated by arrangement, and not in Bankruptcy.  
2. That FRANCIS CHOMLEY be, and he is hereby appointed Trustee.  
3. That H. ABENDROTH and EDMUND PRY be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee of Inspection.

All PAYMENTS on account of the Estate, it is requested, will be paid to the order of the Undersigned.

F. CHOMLEY,  
Trustee for the Estate of  
DODD & Co.  
Amoy, January 14, 1878.

## NOTICE.

OFFICE OF THE SHANGHAI STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY,  
IN LIQUIDATION.

A FOURTH RETURN OF CAPITAL AT the Rate of THREE TAELS per SHARE will be made to Shareholders of Record on the 1st April. Payable at the Office of the Liquidators, on MONDAY, the 8th April.

Warrants will then be delivered by the Undersigned to Shareholders, or their lawful representatives, on presentation of Share Certificates for Endorsement.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 1st to the 8th April inclusive.

By Order,

RUSSELL & Co.,  
Liquidators.  
Shanghai, March 20, 1878. ap14

## Notices to Consignees.

## COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

## NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of the following Cargo are requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and take immediate delivery. This Cargo has been landed and stored at their risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

H. DU POUEY,  
Agent.  
Ex. "Pei Ho."

Mr. C. Grossmann, G (in diamond), No. 7367, 1 case from Marseilles.

Ex. "Anday."

PO Messrs Adamson, Bell & Co. from Co., 27 cases Colour, .... Shanghai.

B 58 " Madras.

SP. " 50 " London.

W.M. W. Macf. Smith, 1 case from Belts, .... London.

Hongkong, April 9, 1878. ap13

## To-day's Advertisements.

## NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S. S. "MACTAN," FROM MANILA.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Steamer are hereby notified that their Cargo will be landed and stored in the Godowns of the Undersigned at their risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

RUSSELL & Co.  
Hongkong, April 12, 1878. ap10

## Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor Owners will be Responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessels, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:

QUICKSTE, American barque, Captain Barnaby.—Captain.

NORTH STAR, American ship, Captain J. U. Thompson.—Order.

ARYL, British steamer, Captain D. Scott.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

ANTIOCH, American barque, Capt. W. B. Seymour.—Chinese.

LADAGO, American ship, Captain C. B. Pierce.—Captain.

DAGO, British steamer, Capt. Haddock.—Meyer & Co.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, British barque, Captain A. McIntyre.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

PABEE, British steamer, Capt. Sergeant Melchers & Co.

DEVANA, British barque, Capt. William May.—Melchers & Co.

LADY PENRHYN, British barque, Capt. E. Owen.—Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.

HONGKONG CHIM, Leases of the Hongkong Chinese Mail. Hongkong, April 6, 1878.

NOTICE.

MR. CHARLES WO BOSE has been authorized to sign our Firm per procuration at Canton.

CARLOWITZ & Co.  
Canton, April 2, 1878. my1

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS.

April 11, Zamboanga, Spanish steamer, 651, Aranguren, Haiphong April 6, Paddy Landwehr & Co.

April 11, Conquest, British steamer, 317, Scott, Haiphong April 7, and Holhown 10, General Kwong Lee Yuen.

April 12, State of Alabama, British str., 1656, A. Riché, Saigon April 7, Malin and Rio.—ARDINE, MATTHESON & Co.

April 12, Mactan, Spanish steamer, 371, A. Erquiza, Manila April 9, General Russell & Co.

April 12, Lady Penrhyn, British barque, 815, E. Owen, Sydney Feb. 15, Coal.

VOGEL, Hagedorn & Co.

Hongkong, April 9, 1878. ap24

## DEPARTURES.

Apr. 12, Albury, for Swatow, &c.

12, Bellona, for Saigon.

12, H. M. S. Grouper, for Pahko.

CLEARED.

Maria Ravano, for Manila.

Norna, for Swatow.

Kalaya, for Batavia.

Dago, for Nagata.

Karo, for Shanghai.

Marie Louise, for Quinhon.

Parades, for Bangkok.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per State of Alabama, from Saigon, Messrs Taro Ando (Japanese Consul), John Pitman, G. Stanton, M. D. Ezekiel and J. Shaw, 20 Chinese.

Per Zamboanga, from Haiphong, 8 Europeans, and 14 Chinese.

Per Conquest, from Haiphong & Holhown,

Per Mactan, from Manila, 5 Cabin and 1 deck.

DEPARTED.

Per Albury, for Taiwan Foo, Mr. J. G. T. Hassell; Mr. H. A. Giles, for Amoy.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Established A.D. 1841.

## POST OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.

MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES PACKET.

The United States Mail Packet *Gætico* will be despatched on SATURDAY, the 18th instant, with Mails for Japan, San Francisco, and the United States, which will be closed as follows:

2 p.m. Registry of Letters ceases.

2.30 p.m. Post-Office closes, but Letters (except for Non-Union Countries) may be posted on board the Packet with Late Fee of 18 cents extra Postage until the time of departure.

Correspondence for Non-Union West Indies (except the Bahamas and Hayti), Costa Rica, Honduras, Monte Video, New Granada, Paraguay, and Uruguay can no longer be sent by this route.

Hongkong, April 9, 1878. ap13

MAILS BY THE NEBRASKA PACKET.

The French Contract Packet *Gætico* will be despatched from Hongkong on THURSDAY, the 18th instant, with Mails to and through the United Kingdom and Europe, via Marseilles; to Saigon, Singapore, Batavia, Galle, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Fiji, Aden, Socotra, Réunion, Mauritius, Suez, and Alexandria. This is the best opportunity for forwarding Correspondence to E. Africa, the Cape, St. Helena, and Ascension.

Letters may also be forwarded to INDIA by this Packet.

The following will be the hours of closing the Mails, &c.:

Wednesday, 17th inst.

5 p.m. Money Order Office closes. Post Office closes except the NIGHT BOX, which remains open all night.

Hongkong, April 12, 1878. ap18

MAILS BY THE ENGLISH PACKET.

The English Contract Packet *Kashgar* will be despatched with the Mails for Europe, &c., on SATURDAY, the 20th instant.

The following will be the hours of closing the Mails, &c.:

Friday, 18th instant.

5 p.m. Money Order Office closes.

6 p.m. Post Office closes except the NIGHT BOX, which remains open all night.

Saturday, 19th instant.

7 a.m. Post Office opens for sale of Stamps, Registry of Letters, and Posting of all Correspondence.

10 a.m. Post Office closes except for Late Letters, Registry of Letters ceases.

10.15 a.m. Letters may be posted with Late Fee of 18 cents extra Postage till

11 a.m. when the Post Office CLOSSES entirely.

11 a.m. Letters (but Letters only) addressed to the United Kingdom via Brindisi, or to Singapore, may be posted on board the Packet with Late Fee of 48 cents extra postage, till

11.50 a.m. when the Mail is finally closed.

Hongkong, April 11, 1878. ap20

MAILS BY THE TORRE STRAITS PACKET.

The Australian Contract Packet *Bourne*, will be despatched from Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, the 24th instant, with Mails for Singapore, Somerset, Cocktown, Cleveland Bay, Bowen, Keppel Bay, Brisbane, Sydney, Tasmania, New Zealand, and Melbourne. Correspondence cannot be registered after 11.15 a.m.

The Mail will be closed at 11.30 a.m. Supplementary mail received on board with late fee of 18 cents till time of departure.

Correspondence for Southern and Western Australia can be sent by this route if desired, but as a general

## CANTON.

## A TERRIBLE TORNADO.

(From a Correspondent.)

CANTON, April 12, 1878.

The central portion of the settlement of Shameen is a scene of devastation that it were hopeless to attempt adequately to depict in words; much less can the contrast be vividly drawn with the charming picture combining the comforts of family homes with the beauties of Nature and the elegancies of Art presented on the same favoured spot yesterday afternoon, as I beheld it from the deck of a steamer upon which some friends had embarked for the North. Descending as I then did upon its beauties, I shrank from a present recital of the sad revelation that but twenty hours have wrought upon the community. "But twenty hours" may, the havoc that is so incomprehensible and awe-inspiring even in its mute eloquence, was the work of but twenty seconds of time! In presence of this phenomenal manifestation of the power of the elements, let us hasten to acknowledge the great mercy that none of the foreign residents were killed or seriously injured;—a mercy, indeed, for that all escaped seems little short of a miracle. One family of the stricken locality was absent, most fortunately, it is said; since their usual sitting room was greatly damaged. But the tales of individual escapes that will thrill the ears of friends, must this evening give place to the broad features of a calamity so startling and appalling that we can only characterize it as one of Nature's most ruthless tragedies,—a tragedy, because beside the desolation to which we have already alluded, we already hear of the loss of several native lives.

But of its instruments and their broad effects, we have now to report; reserving particulars for to-morrow evening. Promising that it became obvious last evening that the S.W. monsoon of the past few days had charged the air with electricity and that at two changes of the tide during the twenty hours there was a succession of tempestuous squalls, our theory, drawn from previous observation and inquiry regarding meteorological phenomena and from the observation of several persons to-day as well as from existing visible indications, is, that a Tornado, bearing on its crest a huge Waterspout, burst and fell upon Shameen, at the incoming of the tide this p.m. The form and spiral action of a Waterspout were distinctly marked by one gentleman for some minutes as it approached with startling rapidity; as it, like an enormous bird of prey, it was swooping in mid-air to swoop down upon its victims.

Thus it struck down upon the bunt line of trees between Messrs. Deacon & Co.'s residence and the British Consulate, uprooting more than half of the finest of them, and sweeping its way through to the houses and godowns in the direction of S.W. to N.E., left traces of its whirling character at various points between the first and second line of houses before passing to the creek and Chinese shops in the rear; the average breadth of its course being about 600 feet.

The following are the houses and silk godowns seriously damaged or quite demolished:

- Meers Gibb & Co.'s late residence.
- Messrs. Gepp & Co.'s residence and godown.
- Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s residence.
- Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.'s residence.
- Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.'s silk godown, demolished.
- Messrs. Wm. Pastore & Co.'s residence.
- Messrs. Wm. Pastore & Co.'s silk godown, demolished.
- Messrs. Siemens & Co.'s silk godown, demolished.
- Messrs. Thomas and Mercer's residence, somewhat injured.
- Messrs. Deacon & Co.'s residence, slightly injured.

Fully 100 trees have fallen, some lying from S.W. to N.E.; a few nearly S. to N., some N. to S.; others about E. to W.

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

CANTON, 11th April.

The morning had been stormy; thunder that pealed without ceasing for sometimes the space of a quarter of an hour. It was just about 3 p.m. when the thunder crashed forth from several quarters of the heavens at once, and then suddenly came such a peculiar rushing, buzzing noise as I had never heard before. After listening for a few moments, I went to the door to listen, thinking the Power had just arrived and had met with some accident to her engines. But a strange sight met me. To the south-west was a towering mass of cloud, blackened apparently with myriads of birds, and moving towards Shameen. I had only just time to close three windows when the air was darkened with leaves and branches of the trees and broken tiles. My windows began to break in all directions, and I stood

expecting momentarily that the house would fall. In less than two minutes there was a lull, and feeling it safe to go out, I went to the back door and saw such a sight as I hope never to see again. The tornado was marching across the city, a pillar of a cloud, thick with dust and debris. In those two short minutes Shameen and the city were ruined as if they had withstood a long siege. An old resident said to me to-night, "I have seen many bad typhoons in China and other parts, but in all my life I never witnessed anything so terrible as to-day." A clear line, one hundred and fifty yards in width, seems to have been drawn through the city, passing immediately over the bridge connecting the north side of Shameen with the Canal Road. The scene of desolation, as it appears from the top of a house by the Canal side, is past description. Indeed, it baffles not words alone, but thought. Over a wide area the houses are levelled to the ground, and a fire blazing furiously (Thursday night, 10 o'clock) amid the ruins. The number of dead that must be buried there is terrible to think of. The sight at the bridge was by far the most shocking. For about seventy yards on each side the crowded fleet of boats seem to have been just knocked to small pieces. It was heartrending in the extreme. I was not there till half an hour after the tornado had passed, but the canal was still covered with small pieces of wood so densely that the water was scarcely visible, and a large number of persons were still holding on to ruins of their boats to save their lives. It is believed that several hundreds of persons met their death at this spot. It is no use to detail the special cases that have come to my hearing, but it is a sad sight for many who are the sole survivors of a whole boatful of relatives. Tong-cheong is dead the amiable and portly tailor, who has been a favourite with foreigners for 18 years, and ten of his assistants are said to be buried with him under the ruins of his house. The Chinese shops for foreign stores are almost totally destroyed. Others will doubtless tell you of the terrible havoc on Shameen. Perhaps it is safe to say that one third of the trees are destroyed, and those of course the finest ones. It will take twenty years for the beautiful settlement to recover the position and reputation it has so deservedly enjoyed. But it is hard to write of it. I have seen more heart-rending sights and more death this afternoon than in all my life before.

The tornado passed over Fati, Shameen and the Western suburbs of the City. A passenger on board the Canton steamer says:—"We saw it as we were going in, and Captain Cary called it a water-spout. It has left a path about 300 to 500 yards broad of complete devastation. Thousands of people must have been killed instantaneously on water and land. The eastern and western houses of Shameen are uninjured, except a few panes of glass, while the outside plaster of some is chipped as if a gang of coolies had been fighting with brick-bats and bamboo against it."

The Canal above and below the Bridge was shock-full of wrecks, with dead boat-people under it and mixed with it. None of the mission houses in the City are injured; and only one foreigner is hurt, and that but slightly. Nearly one-half of the houses on Shameen are utterly uninhabitable, and several will have to be rebuilt from the foundation."

By the courtesy of the Officers of the steamer *Powar* we learn that the catastrophe occurred about half an hour before they arrived (say quarter to 3 o'clock). Lots of sampans were lifted completely out of the water, and capsized. During the progress of the tornado, vivid flashes of lightning were seen and a heavy thunder-storm, accompanied with rain, burst over the city. It appears to have worked its way through the city in a zigzag manner, carrying everything before it. The people on board the guard boats were observed cutting the air with their swords and firing guns to scare away the eye-one. It is said that hail-stones fell, measuring 2 inches by three quarters of an inch; and however improbable this may appear we are assured on reliable authority that it is correct. Two fires occurred at the same time, and one was still burning when the *Powar* left this morning. From Chinese sources we learn that about 2,000 Chinese have lost their lives, and a very much larger number have been injured. Such a catastrophe has never been known to occur before in the memory of the oldest inhabitants.

## Police Intelligence.

(Both Magistrates Sitting.)

April 12, 1878.

ASHAUA.

Joseph Welsh, a seaman belonging to the American barque *Frank Marion*, was charged with committing an unprovoked assault on Captain Eldridge, the master of the vessel. By the complainant's evidence it appears that the defendant came on shore to see the U.S. Consul. He then met the Captain and asked for some money, which was refused. He followed him as far as Wellington Street, when the prisoner pulled the Captain, who is a cripple, out of his chair, tearing his clothes and struck him, knocking out one of his teeth. The char-cooker who was carrying the prosecutor corroborated the Captain's statement.—Dr. Lepthorn proved dressing the prosecutor's wound, and said that he had lost a tooth. The Magistrate sentenced the defendant to seven months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

## SUPREME COURT.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.  
(Before His Lordship the Acting Chief Justice, the Hon. F. Snowden.)

April 12, 1878.

Hufun, Official Assignee v. Spratt.

His Lordship delivered the following judgment:—This was a suit instituted by the official assignee on April 21st, 1878, in the bankruptcy of Fung Ming Cheung, who claimed about \$35,000 from Messrs. Spratt

for the construction of the Cosmopolitan Dock. The sum of \$1,717.42 was paid into court by the defendant, who denied further liability for various reasons, amongst others claiming a set-off for penalties \$10,000, and for work and labour \$26,782.68. The masters in difference between the parties were referred to the arbitration of the Hon. J. Price, the Surveyor-General, by an order of the Supreme Court in Original Jurisdiction on the 4th day of August, 1877. By his award, dated October 20th, 1877, the arbitrator found that a sum of \$13,817.70 was due to the estate of Fung Ming Cheung. Before the sum was paid to the estate notice of motion was served on the plaintiff January 30th, 1878, to show cause why the order of the court dated November 23rd, 1877, making Mr. Price's award an order of court, should not be carried into effect, and the sum of money standing to the credit of the cause should not be paid to Mr. Brewster as solicitor for Leong Cho Kum, Fung Leong, and Wing Chuen Fong. The only sum standing to the credit of the cause at this time was the \$1,717 paid into court. The Official Assignee at the hearing of the motion appeared by his solicitor, Mr. Holmes, and Mr. Brewster appear on behalf of Messrs. Spratt, and also for the other parties who claimed under separate assignments moneys payable by Messrs. Spratt to the bankrupt by consent of the parties, although it is not so expressed. I made an order, dated November 23rd, 1877, that the Registrar should, out of the fund in court to the credit of the cause (The Official Assignee v. W. B. Spratt and another), pay the taxed costs of the plaintiff's solicitor in the suit and of the arbitration, the latter not to exceed \$125, and to pay over the balance remaining after payment of these costs to Mr. Brewster as solicitor for Leong Cho Kum. The matter being arranged by the consent of the solicitors for the parties the validity of the assignments was admitted, and it was with much surprise I found that a notice of motion was given by the plaintiff, the Official Assignee, on the 10th of December, 1877, calling on defendants to show cause why they should not pay all costs of the plaintiff, and \$125 costs of the arbitration, and why the plaintiff's costs, including the taxed costs of the plaintiff's solicitor in the suit and of the arbitration, the latter not to exceed \$125, should not be paid out of the moneys paid into court by the defendants, and another sum of \$13,817.70 paid under the award of Mr. Price. The object of the motion was to make the whole fund formed by these two sums chargeable with the costs, and not only the sum which had been paid into court and to which alone my order of November 23rd, 1877, applied. After hearing the motion of the 10th December, 1877, the Court made an order which is embodied in a decree to the effect that without prejudice to the order of November 23rd, 1877, and the rights of either party to apply to set aside or vary it, that the motion should stand over, and that Leong Cho Kum claiming to be entitled to the funds in court under an assignment dated March 24th, 1878, made between him and the bankrupt, purporting to secure \$22,500, and the other two assignees, Fung Leong and Wong Chuen Fong, claiming to be entitled to \$3,325 and \$3,000 respectively, under like assignments dated the 14th April, 1875, and 16th June, 1875, in priority to the claim of the official assignee, should be at liberty to apply by motion for payment of the said fund as they should be advised. Application was made by motion dated the 22nd January ultimo that the \$13,817.70 should be paid out of court to Leong Cho Kum. The learned Attorney-General appeared for the claimant, and Mr. Hallay for the official Assignee. The order of November 23rd having been made with consent of the solicitors for the parties to this suit, and the validity of these assignments having been admitted by the plaintiff's solicitor, it seems to me almost contrary to *bond fide* that any attempt should be subsequently made to vary or upset it, and it must stand so far as the \$1,717 are concerned. The costs of the arbitration were by the order of reference to be awarded by the court, and had application been made it is possible that the costs would have been thrown on the defendants, Messrs. Spratt. It is said the official assignee had no right to give away part of the bankrupt's estate divisible amongst the creditors. This, however, depends on the validity of Leong Cho Kum's deed of assignment which would absorb the whole of the two funds. If it is good, his solicitor had a right to consent that the costs should be paid out of his money; if it is bad and the whole of his two funds goes to the bankrupt's creditors, then the official assignee has given a consent he ought not to have given, but by which he is bound.

The proceedings in this case being somewhat complicated, I have thought it right to prefix a history of them, which does not affect the main question to be decided. With respect to the \$1,717, for the payment of which an order was made by consent, I hold that order to be binding on the parties. The question next to be decided is as to the second sum of \$13,817.70 paid into court under the award.—Does it belong to the official assignee of the bankrupt's estate? Or does it go to the claimant Leong Cho Kum under an assignment of a debt due from Spratt and others for building the Cosmopolitan Dock, of which assignment they had notice, the bankrupt having taken over the contract from the original contractors, Wing Shing and others? Mr. Hallay contends on behalf of the official assignee that the assignment was a fraudulent assignment on the grounds that it was: 1st—An assignment of the whole of the bankrupt's property to secure an antecedent debt and was not made in consideration of a present advance. 2nd—That it was a fraud as being a collusive arrangement between himself and Leong Cho Kum, who was the person in fact who took over the contract from Wing Shing, the bankrupt Fung Ming Cheung being merely the ostensible lender. The bankrupt and Leong Cho Kum were closely cross-examined by Mr. Hallay as to the circumstances under which the assignment was made, but I must say we note in Leong Cho Kum's denial of any knowledge of the original contract is hard to believe. The bankrupt says that it was after he had borrowed of Leong Cho Kum the \$400 in September, 1874, that he took an assignment of the original contract from Wing Shing. This must be an error, as the assignment was made by an agreement dated 21st of August, 1878. It sets out that in consideration of Fung Ming Cheung advancing money to complete the dock to an amount not exceeding the balance of \$110,000 remaining unpaid, less penalties and detractions, Wing Shing assigned to him the whole amount of the contract sum of \$100,000 then remaining due or unpaid. What the amount was he never so far as I know, been actually determined. The bankrupt says that he did not mention the dock

to Leong Cho Kum at first, and only told him where he had invested the money already borrowed three months after the loan of \$400 in September, 1874. He then told Leong Cho Kum that he had put the money in the dock and asked for advances. Leong Cho Kum said yes, if I would make out for him a written document. The bankrupt wrote one out himself. He says "I deposited the assignment as security for the loan". It seems that the bankrupt was in partnership with some other persons in a stationery business. Leong Cho Kum, who lived principally near Macao, traded with San Francisco in paper goods which he bought at the bankrupt's shop called the Kwong Su. From time to time he was in the habit of letting the bankrupt have money to use, the arrangement being that 1 per cent, per month was paid for the use of it; the bankrupt says he got 4 per cent. Up to 8th July, 1873, Leong Cho Kum had lent him on these terms \$4,000, beginning from March, 1872. He had borrowed about \$8,700 from other people before and after September 11th. Some of this money the bankrupt had advanced to the contractor for the dock, but of this Leong Cho Kum avers he was ignorant. The last advance made before he was informed of how the money was invested was on the 11th September, 1874, when \$400 were lent. Three months after this the bankrupt says he told him about the dock and that he had lent the contractor money for no fixed time and without security. In July, 1873, he says, he first began to talk to the contractor for Wing Shing about assigning to him the contract, and it was duly assigned on August 21st, 1873, and notice given to Spratt and Co. Shortly after he seems to have conducted the making of the dock himself up to April 2nd, 1875, when he handed the work over to Tung Kwong. Leong Cho Kum confirms this account—if we make the necessary allowance for the habitual inaccuracy of Chinese witnesses—with tolerable accuracy. He distinctly states that the assignment was made on strong pressure. He had been kept in ignorance of the investments of the bankrupt, and when he demanded payment was told that until the dock was finished payment could not be had. The evidence is as follows:—Fung Ming Cheung being pressed said "I will go to a lawyer with you and make a written document to make you receive all your money from the dock before I receive mine." I assented, and lent him then \$2,000 more. I wanted him, the witness says, "to put all the amount in this document. He refused, and I would not let him have any more money. Then he consented, and I advanced \$2,300; this was on November 29th, 1873. A month after there was another advance of \$2,500. Then of \$2,000. Then he says I demanded payment. He said that the dock was not done and wanted \$3,500 more. I gave him a good scolding and lent him the money. Up to September, 1874, I had lent him \$22,500." In March, 1875, the assignment was made; the recitals in the document confirm this and it is pretty clear therefore that the account of their affairs supplied to Mr. Wotton, who prepared the assignment, by the bankrupt and Fung Ming Cheung in March, 1875, coincided with these present statements. This assignment (B Ex) recites a debt due to Leong Cho Kum of \$22,500, and money due under the agreement between the bankrupt, Spratt & Co., and Wing Shing, of about \$50,000. It can scarcely be said that the bankrupt was then contemplated, and the small amount ultimately awarded to the bankrupt under the arbitration of Mr. Price was at that time beyond all calculation. I will only add that Mr. Wotton had the management of the business, which is a guarantee that the transaction, so far at any rate as the legal documents are concerned, was quite *bond fide*. If the arrangement was collusive the parties must have gone to their solicitor tutored by some one else well versed in the requirements of English Law. Leong Cho Kum is closely cross-examined as I have remarked before. He denies ever seeing the agreement before, though it is recited in his assignment and the bankrupt says he was deposited. He says that he did not know of the bankrupt's connection with the Dock Company before the time he mentions. Except as a test of credit this does not seem to me very material—unless there is further evidence that the whole arrangement between the bankrupt and Leong Cho Kum was collusive. I think it is quite clear that Fung Ming Cheung was deceiving him because he had received from Messrs. Spratt up to March 25th, 1874, in cash and cash \$87,331.50, and on April 11th he received \$8,000 more, whereas he constantly assured Leong Cho Kum that he could not get any money before the dock was finished. The recital, however, in the assignment, that about \$60,000 were due under the contract, was not incorrect. Mr. Hallay argued that this was an assignment of the whole of the bankrupt's remaining interest, and therefore was void. As the case had turned out, it was the whole; as at that time it was expected to turn out, it was not the whole. The arbitration and its result no one could foresee. There are numerous authorities which lay down that the assignment of the whole or the greater part of a trader's estate to secure an antecedent debt is an act of bankruptcy and void, as a general proposition; but they vary very much, and it is hardly possible, I think, to reconcile them. But the severity of earlier decisions has been much mitigated. After referring to the cases cited, his Lordship concluded:—Moreover, there is another important difference between this and the majority, at any rate, of the cases cited where deeds of assignment have been held invalid. They generally contain a power to seize the whole of the debtor's property on demand or payment. In the case before us there is no such thing, but merely an authority is given to Spratt & Co., to pay to Leong Cho Kum money as it becomes due under the contract. The advances for which the assignment was made, so far as we know, have been expended by the debtor in paying for wages and material in carrying out the works. There was another ground for supporting this assignment mentioned by the learned Attorney-General which I think is good; it was an appropriation of specific fund, and this would take it out of the hands of the Official Assignee. It seems to me then, that this assignment must be supported, as I find that it was not made in contemplation of bankruptcy; nor with the intention to delay and defeat creditors; nor was it an assignment of all or the greater part of the bankrupt's property. Though it was made partly in consideration of an antecedent debt, there was a previous agreement made upon pressure to assign the debt and advances subsequent to the verbal agreement. The whole thing may be a fraud; but if so, it is very cleverly concocted by some one who was versed in

bankruptcy law; but the circumstances under which the assignment was made forbid the notion, or the facts are really as stated by the bankrupt and Leong Cho Kum, as I prefer to believe. It is a very common arrangement for one Chinaman who trusts another to let him have large sums of money without security to use. He becomes what is well known as the capitalist—a part usually, I fear, attended with disastrous results when works are undertaken under contracts with foreigners. Judgment for defendants, question of costs reserved.

## ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The steamer *State of Alabama*, bringing on the *Nizam's* mails, which include London dates to the 1st March, arrived here this morning:

## TELEGRAMS.

(Strikes Times Extra.)

London, March 17.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* states the Pope has ordered the Italian Bishops to legalize their positions and ask their *Ecclavator*. This means a tacit acceptance of the loss of the Temporal Power. *Repub Pach* has had audience of His Imperial Majesty the Czar, at which he was received with great ceremony. It is reported that he asks that Varna should be restored to Turkey. Typhus fever is raging at Adrianople and Philippopolis, and such sickness prevails at Erzerum and Constantinople.

London, March 18.—Ratifications of a Treaty of Peace between Russia and Turkey were exchanged at Saint Petersburg on the 17th. The conditions were published immediately afterwards, and communicated to the Powers.

It is reported that serious negotiations are proceeding between the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs and the British Embassy at Vienna, for an alliance between England and Austria, and that if they fail Count Andrassy will resign.

A Russian army has crossed the river beyond San Stefano, and has occupied villages close to Makriks.

The Russians have arrived close to Budakdora despite the Porte dissenting to a Russian occupation.

Great excitement prevails in Constantinople, and sedition placards have been posted up about the city.

London, Mar. 15.—Consols, 95 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; French Rentes, 110 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Bar Silver, 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Four per cent., 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Five and half per cents., 91 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Exchange on India is 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 7 lb. Shirts 6s. 9d.; 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. Shirts 6s. 10d.

London, Mar. 18.—Twenty-five thousand Russian troops have arrived at Ichatalija from Tifliss. The Servian army corps, wishing to protest against the peace conditions, have reoccupied Waingi, which

Mails.  
Occidental & Oriental Steamship Company.

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THE S. S. "GAELIC" will be despatched for San Francisco via Yokohama, on SATURDAY, the 13th Instant, at 3 p.m., taking Cargo and Passengers for Japan, the United States and Europe. Connection is made at Yokohama, with Steamers from Shanghai.

Freight will be received on Board until 4 p.m. of the 12th Instant. PARCEL PACKAGES will be received at the Office until 5 p.m. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

A REDUCTION is made on RETURN Passage Tickets.

SPECIAL REDUCTIONS granted to Officers of the ARMY and NAVY and to Members of the CIVIL and CONSULAR Services.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 37, Queen's Road Central.

G. B. EMORY, Agent.

Hongkong, April 9, 1878. ap18

NOTICE.  
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PAQUEBOTS POSTS FRANCAIS.  
STEAM FOR SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, POINT DE GALLE, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, ISMAILIA, PORT SAID, NAPLES, AND MARSEILLES;

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ON THURSDAY, the 18th April, 1878, at Noon, the Company's S. S. "F. J. H. O.", Commandant PASCUALIN, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 p.m., Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m. on the 17th April, 1878. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office.)

Contents and value of Packages are required. For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

H. DU POUHEY,  
Agent.

Hongkong, April 6, 1878. ap18



STEAM FOR Singapore, Penang, Point de Galle, Aden, Suez, Malta, Brindisi, Ancona, Venice, Mediterranean Ports, Southampton, and London.

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Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, and Australia.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship "KASHGAR", Captain E. J. BAKER, will leave this on SATURDAY, the 20th April, at Noon.

For further Particulars, apply to A. LIND, Superintendent.

Hongkong, April 11, 1878. ap20

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Freight will be received on board until 4 p.m., of 16th Instant. Parcel Packages will be received at the office until 5 p.m. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Connular Invoices to accompany Overland Cargo should be sent to the Company's Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 6, Praya Central.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, April 6, 1878. pp20

### intimations.

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Translations of Chinese School-books.  
Geographical Notes on the Province of Kiangsi.

Short Notices of New Books and Literary Intelligence.

Notes and Queries.—

The Manchu Terms for 上帝 and 耶和華.  
The Mammoth in Chinese Records.

Mohammedan Apostles in China.  
The K'lin identified with the Giraffe.  
Life Saving Association, and other Benevolent Societies at Wuhu.  
Professor Seal and his Critics.

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Books Wanted, Exchanges, &c.

China Mail Office.

Hongkong, March 12, 1878.

NOTICE.

A. MILLAR & Co.,  
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Queen's Road East,  
HONGKONG.

September 15, 1877.

NOTICE.

THE CHINESE MAIL.

FROM and after the Chinese New Year's day (February 17, 1878) the Chinese Mail will be issued DAILY instead of twice-weekly as heretofore. No change, however, will be made in the price of subscription, which will remain at \$4 per annum.

The charges for advertisements are now assimilated to those of the China Mail. The unusual success which has attended the Chinese Mail makes it an admirable medium for advertisement.

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China Mail Office,

17th February, 1878.

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Hongkong, August 23, 1877. ap23

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NORTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, January 1, 1878.

Hongkong, October 14, 1877.

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NOTICE.

STEAMERS

Argyl..... 5 Scott..... Brit. str. 1871

Arratoon Apoor..... 5 Macdavid..... Brit. str. 1892

Bomby..... 2 h. Brit. str. 749

Canoes..... 3 h. Brit. str. 95

Conquest..... 4 h. Scott..... Brit. str. 317</p